VICTORIA VOICE

THE IMPORTANCE OF VOTING

Opinion is one of the key factors used in the process of voting, in fact opinion is embedded in our day to day lives. Opinion isn't the only factor to take into consideration while choosing a leader, but it eventually affects your final decision and hopefully your vote. Since voting is a task to take on, and since we're human beings, and have busy lives, our busyness may impact our ability to research and make a informed decision. But voting is similar to homework; if you don't submit your work on time, you can't complain about a bad mark (if given). The same goes for voting; if you don't vote, then you can't complain about the outcome, or the candidates elected. In the circumstances of citizens below the age of eighteen (minors), we are not eligible to vote. Why? Because we have to learn and observe how to properly make a decision and reach a level of maturity. Although we are minors, we still should have some knowledge about candidates, or just current updates on elections and their impact. Everyone, including minors, should have the mindset to take the initiative to know what is happening in our city, province, and country. When you don't do any of these things, and voice your opinion or complaints when you haven't officially stated your opinion, to further help the results, then your opinion on this account won't matter. Which is why you should take your chance to voice your opinion when it is granted to you and others, in which make a change.

-Malaika Sveinson-Banda

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S.W.A.A.G.

Monday, October 23
- Running Club Practice (Elementary and Junior High) – at Lunch in the North Gym
- Speak Out! Rehearsal (Grades 7 – 9) 3:20 – 5:00 p.m. in Drama Room 2104
- Junior High Junior Girls Volleyball Game – VIC @ Hillcrest, 4:15 – 5:45 p.m , 16400 – 80 Avenue N.W. Edmonton
- Senior Girls Volleyball Game – VIC v. Christ the King, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. in the South Gym

Tuesday, October 24
- Advanced Instrumental Jazz Ensemble – 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
- Junior High Senior Girls Volleyball Game – VIC @ John D. Braaco , 4:15 – 5:15 p.m. 3150 – 139 Avenue N.W., Edmonton

Wednesday, October 25
- Smudge Ceremony (Morning) – 8:30 a.m. in Room 1121
- Running Club Practice (Elementary and Junior High) – at Lunch in the North Gym
- Speak Out! Rehearsal (Grades 7 – 9) 3:20 – 5:00 p.m. in Drama Room 2104
- Intermediate Instrumental Jazz Ensemble – 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. in Room 1258
- Junior High Junior Girls Volleyball Practice - 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. in the North Gym
- Senior Girls Volleyball Practice – 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. in the South Gym

Thursday, October 26
- Junior High Junior Girls Volleyball Practice – 7:00 – 8:15 a.m. in the South Gym
- Smudge Ceremony (Morning) – 8:30 a.m. in Room 1121
- Advanced Instrumental Jazz Ensemble – 11:40 – 12:10 p.m. in Room 1258
- Elementary Hot Lunch
- High School Leadership at lunch in the Basement Multi-Purpose Room

Friday, October 27
- Last day to drop a FULL YEAR class
- High School Leadership at lunch in Basement Multi-Purpose Room
- Running Club Practice (Elementary and Junior High) – at Lunch in the North Gym
- Smudge Ceremony (afternoon) – 3:20 p.m. in Room 1121
- Senior Girls Volleyball Practice – 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. in the South Gym
- Junior High Junior Girls Volleyball Game – VIC v Westminster, 4:15 – 5:45 p.m in the North Gym

Advertising

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Word Of The Week

muckamuck

muck·a·muck

noun

a person of great importance or self-importance

ex: a big Hollywood muckamuck

-Emily Marsden

Television Review

Avatar: The Last Airbender

Please note that this review contains some very minor spoiler for characters.

Haven't watched Avatar: The Last Airbender yet? That's rough, buddy. You would've gotten that reference had you watched this show!

If inside jokes and references aren't enough to get you to watch this show, then maybe I can convince you!

Avatar: The Last Airbender (ATLA) is, I'm my opinion, the pinnacle of what an 'adult' TV show should be. Not filled with swearing and violence and innuendo, but instead mature, ready to tackle sensitive topics like sexism, racism, genocide, murder, revenge, and child abuse. ATLA, despite being Y-7, tackles all these subjects without being obvious, and it does it well.

The characters of ATLA are as diverse as they are strong. They live, breathe, and teach life lessons without shoving Aesops down your throat.

Want a strong disabled character?

Meet Toph Beifong, blind master earthbender.

Want a realistic depiction of parent-child abuse? Prince Zuko is a fan-favourite, as well as his sister, Azula, manipulated into a stone-cold killer by the same father who tore her brother's worth apart. This is a brilliant example of how there's more than one type of abuse, and emotional abuse is done in many ways, from putting someone down to manipulating your 'favourite,' and everything in between.

The sequel series, The Legend of Korra, features LGBT characters who are more than their sexualities.

The thing about strong female characters, is that people don't often let them be characters. Instead, they just describe them as 'strong,' and that's their personality.

ATLA has all kinds of strong female characters.

Toph is a tomboy who isn't isn't afraid to get dirty. She can also be impulsive, rude, sarcastic, and has a frankly adorable c, although doomed crush on Sokka, the strategist comic relief whose just as capable as the others.

Katara is strongly feminist and can take care of herself. If you're sexist, it doesn't matter if you are a master waterbender, she. Will. Fight. You. She's also not afraid to kick back, relax, go to the spa and wear makeup.

Azula looks like she could kill you, but… I've got nothing. She's totally willing to shoot lightning while your back is turned if it means she wins. She also has terrible social skills, as this qualifies as flirting for her;

That's a sharp outfit, Chan. Careful. You could puncture the hull of an empire-class Fire Nation battleship, leaving thousands to drown at sea. [Pause] Because it's so sharp.

Hey, killing and princessing leave little time for social skills!

Mai is a knife wielding non-bender who might love her boyfriend, but is ready to call him out if he's being a jerk, and can handle herself just fine, thank you very much.

Ty Lee is perky in pink, but beneath her perpetually smiling face is a formidable foe who can disable limbs and even bending with a few well-timed punches to pressure points.

Then you have Suki, powerful Kyoshi warrior who's totally ready to deliver a vicious smackdown to anyone who dares call her weak. Suki can be crucial in letting people realize that feminism and feminist are not opposites.

So what's the series about?

Avatar: The Last Airbender focuses on the story of Aang and his friends, travelling around the world as they try to stop a hundred-year war from being won by the powerful and ruthless Fire Nation.

The show is the perfect epitome of what war is- there's good and bad in every person, and just about every character is somehow sympathetic. It's not a fire between happy-go-lucky and innocent people and evil jerks, but rather a war between people. And as we all know, people are flawed. People have good qualities. And most importantly, both ‘good’ and ‘bad’ characters have shades of grey.

Take one character, for instance, whose name I won't reveal because of spoilers, has a seething hatred of all the Fire Nation. Now matter who you are, you’re a bad person, and deserve bad things. A very twisted sense of karma and justice, and this is a character who believes themselves to be a good person, justified in their actions.

Then you have people like the Fire Nation, who are often forced to fight and more than gladly joke with their comrades, wish them happy birthday, and become elated when they think their birthday is being celebrated by their commander.

For example, this is some dialogue between ‘evil’ characters, in Season Three episode The Boiling Rock.

> Fake Guard: “Can the new guy ask you veterans a few questions about the prison?
>
> Real Guard (Female): “No, you can't date the female guards.”
>
> Real Guard (Male: “Trust me, you don't want to.”
>
> The female guard throws a cup at him, which causes the guard sitting behind him to laugh.

Thank you, Avatar Wiki.

All in all, what's not to like about this series? The humour is refreshing and void of toilet jokes, the characters are complex, the world building is effortless, and tons of work is put into making the show historically accurate and feel like its own world at the same time.

So go on! What are you waiting for? Watch this stellar show, and be amaaaaazed!

-Alexandra Woolsey

The Science Corner- Melting Chocolate

Do you love science? Check out this area every week for a new science experiment!

You Will Need:

- Small chocolate pieces of the same size (chocolate bar squares or chocolate chips are a good idea)
- Paper plates
- Pen and paper to record your results

Method:

1. Put one piece of chocolate on a paper plate and put it outside in the shade.
2. Record how long it took for the chocolate to melt or if it wasn't hot enough to melt then record how soft it was after 10 minutes.
3. Repeat the process with a piece of chocolate on a plate that you put outside in the sun. Record your results in the same way.
4. Find more interesting locations to test how long it takes for the chocolate pieces to melt. You could try your school bag, hot water or even your own mouth.
5. Compare your results, in what conditions did the chocolate melt? You might also like to record the temperatures of the locations you used using a thermometer so you can think about what temperature chocolate melts at.

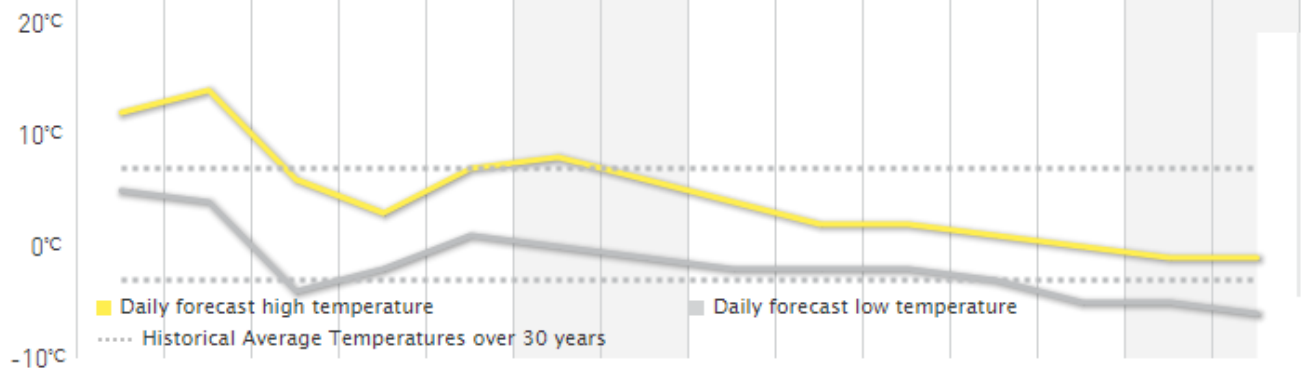
What's Happening?

At a certain temperature your chocolate pieces undergo a physical change, from a solid to a liquid (or somewhere in between). On a hot day, sunlight is usually enough to melt chocolate, something you might have unfortunately already experienced. You can also reverse the process by putting the melted chocolate into a fridge or freezer where it will go from a liquid back to a solid. The chocolate probably melted quite fast if you tried putting a piece in your mouth, what does this tell you about the temperature of your body? For further testing and experiments you could compare white choclate and dark chocolate, do they melt at the same temperature? How about putting a sheet of aluminium foil between a paper plate and a piece of chocolate in the sun, what happens then?

Credits- sciencekids.co.nz

The Weather

	Mon Oct 23	Tue Oct 24	Wed Oct 25	Thu Oct 26	Fri Oct 27	Sat Oct 28	Sun Oct 29	Mon Oct 30	Tue Oct 31	Wed Nov 1	Thu Nov 2	Fri Nov 3	Sat Nov 4	Sun Nov 5
Day	12°C	14°C	6°C	3°C	7°C	8°C	6°C	4°C	2°C	2°C	1°C	0°C	-1°C	-1°C
Night	5°C	4°C	-4°C	-2°C	1°C	0°C	-1°C	-2°C	-2°C	-2°C	-3°C	-5°C	-5°C	-6°C
POP	10%	20%	80%	20%	30%	10%	10%	20%	20%	10%	10%	10%	60%	60%
Rain	-	~1 mm	5-10 mm	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Snow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1-3 cm	~1 cm



Just watch that temperature sink.

Weekend Weather

	Fri (NIGHT) Oct 27	Sat (DAY) Oct 28	Sat (NIGHT) Oct 28	Sun (DAY) Oct 29	Sun (NIGHT) Oct 29
	Mainly clear	Sunny	Clear	Mainly sunny	Partly cloudy
	1 °C	8 °C	0 °C	6 °C	-1 °C
POP	30%	10%	0%	10%	20%

Horoscopes

Aries - Your task will go quickly and smoothly, especially paperwork.

Taurus- The rush of communication indicates love is in the air.

Gemini- You will in counter an interesting conversation today.

Cancer- Some new interesting neighbours could move in…

Leo- Your mood should turn toward getting things underway.

Virgo- You're on an emotional high. You feel like a soaring eagle.

Libra- Do you want to surprise your friend, find something that they belove.

Scorpio- A group activity, perhaps a festival of some kind, could bring new information and people into your life.

Sagittarius- You may be taken aback by someone's aggressive approach to people and situations, but then you may see that really, this person has something important you can learn from.

Capricorn-Gifts of pleasure could be bestowed upon you with little or no effort on your part.

Aquarius- You might be put off by other people's comments.

Pisces- Get things started. You have many fantastic ideas.

-Grace Vandermuelen

Halloween Trivia

How many people go Trick-Or-Treating in the US?

A. 41 million

B. 950 million

C. 105 million

D. 10 million

Answer: 41 million

Mother Earth, Father Sky

Victoria School's art gallery is putting in new artwork

On Oct. 30, 2017 the art gallery will be opening up to a new group of artwork from grades 7 to 12 students.

"The students selected for the art gallery will be using

many different types of media like oil pastel, lineo art, sketches, and many others" exclaimed Mr. Cameron a junior high and high school art teacher.

Students will be composing a piece of artwork from a picture of nature of their choosing. The Black Tile Gallery will have the pieces coming in on Oct. 24 and will be opened shortly after.

None of the art teachers are sure of how many pictures will be put up but they know that they will have lots of talent to hang on the walls. Be sure to see the amazing art throughout October until the beginning of November.

-Grace Rompfer

Perfect Pumpkin Cheese Bars

Ingredients:

- **Crust**
  - 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
  - 1/2 cup butter, softened
  - 1/4 cup white sugar
- **Cheesecake Layer**
  - 8 ounces cream cheese
  - 1/4 cup white sugar
  - 1 egg
  - 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- **Pumpkin Layer**
  - 1 (15 ounce) can pumpkin puree
  - 1 (12 ounce) can evaporated milk
  - 3/4 cup white sugar
  - 2 eggs
  - 3/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
  - 1/2 teaspoon salt
  - 1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
  - 1/4 teaspoon ground cloves

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 425 degrees F (220 degrees C).
2. Stir flour, butter, and 1/4 cup sugar together in a bowl until dough is well-blended. Pat dough into the bottom of a 9x13-inch baking dish.
3. Bake in the preheated oven until crust is lightly golden, 10 to 15 minutes. Cool. Reduce oven temperature to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).
4. Beat cream cheese, 1/4 cup sugar, 1 egg, and vanilla together in a bowl with an electric mixer until smooth.
5. Whisk pumpkin puree, evaporated milk, 3/4 cup sugar, 2 eggs, cinnamon, salt, ginger, and cloves together in a bowl.
6. Spread cream cheese mixture evenly over cooled crust. Pour pumpkin mixture over cream cheese mixture.
7. Bake in the preheated oven until bars are set, about 60 minutes. Cool to room temperature, then refrigerate overnight. Source: allrecipes.com

Gambles- Collaborative Story

Author's note: Welcome to the wonderful, twisted world of "Gambles". Gambles is a novel that is being written by me, and my fellow author- Ava Countryman. A new chapter will be released every week, varying from two characters points of view- Atrice and Catani. This story is about murder. Romance. Magic. Everything. So forget everything, and spiral deep into the world of gambles.

Chapter 1-Atrice

Blood. There was blood everywhere. On the velvet sofas, the polished floor- on my hands. No. It was all wrong. The blood wasn't- wasn't hers. It was from a paper cut. It was my blood. I wished it was my blood. But it wasn't. Nor were the many drops that leaked afterwards.

Three months earlier…

I stared out the window, and into the black night beyond, nearly bouncing on my toes. I calmed by racing heart, brushing my fingertips over the black wax seal. The seal of the long abandoned amethyst kingdom. A kingdom that used to be filled with magic and light- now left for the vultures to pick at. Magic had been outlawed in all the kingdoms throughout the continent, and when Amethyst had refused to yield- it had been conquered. I missed magic. Missed that thrum of adrenaline that would pound through me when I was angry,(which was more than often, I must shamelessly confess). Of course, I still had magic. But I couldn't use it. The thrum inside of me had lost some of its power ever since I had to leash it.

“Atrice” pushed Iris, princess and heir to Kirjia. Not to mention, my best friend, despite the distance of our kingdoms.

“Are we going to go, or just stand here and stare at nothing” she said

“I'm not staring at nothing”

I was staring at the storm. Watching the lightning strike in blinding streaks. Listening as thunder shook the heavens. It called me. I wanted to race the wind. Wanted to feel the rain on my skin. I wanted to be an instrument in that unending symphony of the storm. I wanted to be the storm.

“Yes. Let's go”

I stuck my lantern out the window, a signal for the guard posted outside. A signal that I was ready to fly. I gathered supplies in a scurry- knives, daggers, spell books, stationery,lanterns, and anything else that could help is if things went wrong. Although the letter inviting me and 27 other royals to the abandoned amethyst castle to compete in a confidential game of magic, deceit and gambles, insisted the safety of everyone, I wasn't ready to assume it wasn't a trap. Yes- I was going for the chance to use my magic- but also to figure out who had invited me and the royals and why. Young royals- that is. Princes and princesses ready to rebel against their controlling parents. Behind their backs. That was why- we would have to be very stealthy- blending into the night itself. We were going to duel with our magic. Not gambling with money- but with our lives.I grabbed a black velvet cloak and buttoned it at at my collar bone, tossing the hood over my midnight black hair. I gave Iris a tight nod before opening the door of my large but crowded bedroom without a sound. We crept across the polished cream coloured floors, our feet like dandelions floating on the wind, breathing steady. Once we made it past a series of guest bedrooms, and guards who had sworn their secrecy, we bolted, the word “freedom” coursing through me, the thrum stronger than any magic. Black, brilliant mares waited for us outside the main entrance, barely noticeable against the stormy night sky. I smiled at Herin- the guard who had helped us plan this whole… escapade, before mounting.

From on top the horses, me and Iris exchanged glances- fire dancing in our eyes. We were ready. Ready to ride through the storm. Ready to take risks. Ready to gamble.

Author's note:

I know my fellow author Maddie, has already told you about our “book”, so I’ll share my view on it. Gambles is a game, a game for me, Atrice and Catani. Gambles is a way to escape, a way to find yourself in all things different. Enjoy!

-Maddie McCulloch and Ava Countryman

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